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to the world as they were instructed by him, and assisted by the Holy Spirit of the Most High. The religion of Jesus has gone forth to every quarter of the globe, taking up its abode especially in the most enlightened and civilised countries, where its claims could be examined, and its excellence estimated. It has made reason its champion, and enlisted the affections on its side. It has become triumphant by the mild and persuasive influence of its doctrines; its support is in the convictions and consciences of men. Where has it prevailed, and has not carried light to the ignorant, consolation to the afflicted, and hope to the desponding? If such a religion be not true, well may we exclaim, with the astonished and inquiring Roman, *What is truth?*

ART. VI.—*Pulaski Vindicated from an Unsupported Charge, inconsiderately or malignantly introduced in Judge Johnson's Sketches of the Life and Correspondence of Major General Nathaniel Greene.* 8vo. pp. 37. Baltimore, 1824.

THE dismemberment of Poland, effected by the perfidy and ambition of three despotic powers, has ever been regarded, by the friends of liberty and justice, with the utmost indignation and abhorrence. It was a deed of infamy, which can find no parallel in history, and which, under any of the forms of civil society, would be looked upon as a crime, that could only be expiated by the severest penalties of violated law. The government of Poland, it is true, had grown weak by factions, and was sunk under the burthen of its ill organised constitution. It had once been the pride of the Poles to rally round the standard of what was called, and what in reality was in some of its features, a republican system. The privilege of election, that great palladium of political right, was enjoyed to a considerable extent, and for a time afforded a salutary check to absolute tyranny in the rulers. In the best periods of its administration, however, the Polish government was composed of strangely mixed and discordant elements. The King was elected, but the authority conferred by the crown was almost nothing; the Diet, or legislative

assembly, was elected, but this assembly was always a theatre of anarchy and faction ; it was composed of nobles, who looked only to their own interest, and who were encouraged by each other's example to practise any enormity without shame, to gain their ends. The mass of the people were serfs, degraded by slavery and ignorance. In short, the government of Poland was of a most anomalous character, exhibiting the singular union of a corrupt and factious aristocracy, a monarchy without power, and a democracy without freedom.

Such a system must necessarily decay and go to ruin ; the nobles perpetually encroached on the royal prerogatives, few and contracted as they were ; they controlled the elections ; and at length they took the government effectually into their hands, by introducing into the Diet the *liberum veto*, or the privilege of any member by his single voice to dissolve the assembly, and stop further proceedings. This was usurping a power, which the king did not possess, and which was plainly destructive of all the good purposes to be effected by a deliberative body. The responsibility of public officers was destroyed, for none could fail to find a friend in the Diet, who would stop any investigation into his conduct, if occasion required.

It was at the time when these evils in the government had grown to their greatest height, and its vital energies were paralysed, that the cabinets of Russia, Austria, and Prussia, formed the insidious design of taking advantage of the weakness of Poland to crush its political existence, and, in the true spirit of freebooters, to divide among themselves the plunder of the country, which they had conspired to dismember and ruin. This scheme of infamy was carried into effect, and has fixed a stigma on the character of its projectors, which will forever remain as one of the deepest stains in the history of the civilised world.

That the Poles should be roused by so flagrant an act of indignity and oppression, was not surprising. Civil wars broke out ; the despots procured partisans by the influence of money and intrigue, and by the force of arms ; they spared no pains to kindle the flame of civil discord, that they might the more easily conquer and divide. The spirit of freedom is natural to man, and it was not yet extinct in the

breasts of many of the Poles, notwithstanding the degraded state to which they were reduced as a nation. The crisis called out some men of high and noble minds, genuine patriots, in whom the love of country and of freedom overcame every other passion, and incited them to deeds of heroism and valor, that have seldom been surpassed. To many distinguished Poles, who signalised themselves at that time, and during the succeeding struggles, might the words of the poet be applied with scarcely less force, than to the renowned hero, whose fame they celebrate ;

‘ But should we wish to warm us on our way
Through Poland, there is Kosciusko’s name
Might scatter fire through ice, like Hecla’s flame.’

Among those, who stood in the foremost ranks of patriotism and valor, at the beginning of the contest, who were the first to resist oppression and raise the standard of freedom and right, was Count Pulaski. He fought to restore the falling liberties of his country, with an ardor which nothing could repress, and with a perseverance which no obstacles could diminish, while a gleam of hope remained, that Poland could be saved from the destiny threatened by its enemies. The combined power of three empires drove him from his country, and he arrived in America in time to fight for our own cause of independence, and to die on a foreign shore in defending those principles of justice and liberty, whose growth a wicked conspiracy of despots had blasted on his native soil. As Americans, it is our duty to cherish the fame of Pulaski ; he came to us in the midst of our wants and our perils, when we needed the aid of soldiers like himself, ardent in our cause for its own sake, and tried by the severest discipline of experience ; he died in assisting to procure the freedom, which we now enjoy, and which every American deems the first of his earthly privileges. We care not to look farther ; to these claims alone we are willing to yield up our hearts. In a case like this, we should revolt at the thought of removing the veil, and searching for personal motives ; these no doubt he had, for without them he could not have been a man ; but it is not by his private personal views, whatever they may have been, that his character is to be weighed ; nor by the cold cant that he was a soldier of for-

tune, that his merits are to be estimated, in the United States. The plain question is, what did he do for us, and what did he sacrifice in our behalf? He served us most devotedly, he fought bravely, and he sacrificed his life. We envy not the feelings of an American citizen, who has not gratitude for deeds like these, and whose sense of justice, as well as of gratitude, does not place Pulaski high on the revered list of heroes, by whose united exertions our independence was achieved.

Under impressions like these, it was with sincere regret, that in this country we should find occasion given for any one to write a pamphlet, with the avowed object of *vindicating* the fame of Pulaski from the injurious charge of an American historian; and surprise is mingled with regret, when we learn, that the charge is intended to throw a slur on the military character of a man, whom the world has lauded with a unanimous voice for his skill and bravery as a soldier. To this point we shall again recur. The author of the pamphlet, we are given to understand, is a gentleman of high respectability, who was an officer in Pulaski's legion, from the time it was first organised till its dissolution, who was daily with the commander during this period, was at his side when he received the fatal wound at the attack on Savannah, and attended him during the last moments of his life. From such a source the work claims our fullest confidence, and we shall take the liberty of presenting to our readers, in the author's own words, such portions of his narrative, as throw light on the character of Pulaski, and as contain some facts but little known in the history of the revolution.

A very brief sketch is given of Pulaski's exertions before he came to this country.

'It is well known,' says the author, 'that for several years previous to the first flagitious partition of Poland, in 1772, by Russia, Austria and Prussia, that unfortunate country was a scene of turbulence, anarchy, devastation, and bloodshed. Stanislaus Augustus, the reigning monarch had been raised to the throne, not by the free and unanimous choice of the nobles, but by a corrupt and degenerate faction, and by the intrigues and even the violence of Russia, whose troops, stationed at a small distance from the plain where the diet of election was held, had overawed his numerous opponents. Among these was Count Pulaski, a nobleman no less

distinguished by his talents and his courage, than by his birth and his rank. Firm, incorruptible, undaunted, he had uniformly resisted the insolent dictation of an ambitious and faithless neighbor, and in Stanislaus he saw a Russian viceroy, rather than the chief of an independent nation.

‘In those confederacies, which were soon formed in various parts of the country, to defend and vindicate its insulted sovereignty, the ardent patriotism of the Count, his implacable hatred of foreign usurpation, his indefatigable zeal, his unshaken constancy, his heroic intrepidity—in short, his towering genius and his stoical and truly republican virtues, rendered him the scourge and terror of the Russians. “During eight succeeding years of a bloody war,” says a writer who has eloquently described the situation of Poland in those calamitous times, “the operations of Pulaski were such as almost to challenge belief. Sometimes vanquished, much oftener victorious, equally great in the midst of a defeat as formidable after victory, and always superior to events, Pulaski attracted and fixed the attention of all Europe, and astonished her by his long and vigorous resistance. Obligated to abandon one province, he made incursions into another, and there performed new prodigies of valor. It was thus that, marching successively throughout all the palatinates, he signalled in each of them that eternal hatred, which he had sworn against the enemies of Poland.” It was Pulaski who, in 1771, conceived and organised the bold design of forcibly carrying off Stanislaus from Warsaw, and bringing him to his camp; not, indeed, to assassinate him, as has been basely and falsely asserted by partisans of Russia, but with a view to make him a rallying point for the nobles, and all the patriots of Poland, and, by means of this union of the monarch with the nation, to crush, or, at least, to drive away from the territory of the republic the satellites of that unprincipled and perfidious power, by whose haughty mandates it had too long been governed. The enterprise, confided to forty brave patriots, succeeded only so far as to seize on the monarch, in the very bosom of his capital, and to convey him away to some distance from it, in spite of every obstacle and danger. The darkness of the night, and other unforeseen casualties, prevented the final execution of a plan, which might eventually have saved Poland from that political annihilation, which has since become her lot.

‘When, from nearly the same motives as induce robbers to disguise or suspend, for a time, their jealousies and animosities, and to unite their efforts and their strength, the more easily to secure a common prey, Russia, Prussia and Austria jointly invaded Poland, in 1772, and at a “fell swoop” seized upon the fairest portion of her territory, which they divided among themselves by that right which only kings and freebooters dare to claim—the

right of superior physical force—the Polish confederates were compelled either to acquiesce in the degradation of their enslaved plundered, partitioned country, or to flee from the beloved and hallowed land which had given them birth—from the land which they had disputed, inch by inch, with the lawless potentates who have since entirely erased it from the map of independent nations. Very few submitted ; many fell into the hands of the Russians or of their adherents, and died martyrs to that noble cause, which they had so strenuously supported ; others escaped to foreign climes. Pulaski was the last to retire from the glorious contest. In a desperate and bloody engagement with the Russians, his army, vastly inferior in numbers, was routed, annihilated ; but his courage still remained. To rush furiously on death would have been useless to his country ; he chose to live, in the hope of again serving it, should heaven and time favor his wishes. Through countless fatigues, difficulties and perils, and after a variety of singular disguises, wonderful adventures, and hairbreadth escapes, he reached Turkey, whose hostilities against Russia accorded with his hatred of that power, and at the same time, flattered the patriotic schemes which his ardent spirit had not ceased to cherish. On that side, however, his hopes were frustrated by the peace concluded between Russia and the Porte, in 1774.*

Wraxall tells a long and tragical story about the attempt above mentioned to seize on the person of Stanislaus ; he calls it an ‘atrocious enterprise,’ and says it was planned by Pulaski, whose design it was to take away the life of the king. It must be remembered, however, that Wraxall is very suspicious authority on this subject ; that is, his information came from a quarter, in which it was hardly possible for him to arrive at an unprejudiced account of the affair. He was in Warsaw a short time after the events took place, but his connexion was entirely with the Russian party, and from this party, then under the high excitement of the times, he derived all he knew of the circumstances. That Pulaski formed the scheme of taking the king, and that he put it partially in execution, there can be no doubt, but that he ever had an intention of assassinating him, there is not a shadow of proof. The contrary, indeed, is abundantly manifest from the fact, that the persons to whom the enterprise was entrusted had Stanislaus several hours in their possession, and might have taken his life at any moment, had such been their purpose. This was not done, and he was suffered finally to escape. Pulaski’s true motive was unquestionably

the one suggested by the author in the passage just quoted. President Adams, in his *Defence of the Constitution and Government of the United States*, was misled by the authority of Wraxall, and has seemed to countenance the suspicion thrown by him on the designs of Pulaski. As far as we can learn, the charge rests with Wraxall alone; we have seen it in no historian, except as repeated from him; and we believe it wholly unworthy of credit.

By the Russian faction in Poland, Count Pulaski's property had been confiscated; he was degraded from his rank, and declared to be an outlaw. Failing of success in attempting to engage Turkey in the cause of his country, he went to France. He remained there but a short time, when he resolved to hazard his fortunes with those of America, and, in the year 1777, we find him in Philadelphia, tendering his services to the American Congress.

‘The inherent ardor of his warlike spirit, his habits of activity, and the desire of efficiently serving the cause, which he had so warmly embraced, did not permit him to wait for the decision of that body on his application,—but he immediately joined the army. He was at Brandywine, on the day of the battle, with the Marquis de Lafayette, and other distinguished foreign officers, in the suite of General Washington. At the time when our right wing was turned by the victorious enemy pressing upon us, and the rapid retreat of the right and centre of our army became the consequence, Count Pulaski proposed to General Washington to give him the command of his body guard, consisting of about thirty horsemen. This was readily granted, and Pulaski with his usual intrepidity and judgment, led them to the charge and succeeded in retarding the advance of the enemy—a delay which was of the highest importance to our retreating army. Moreover, the penetrating military *coup d’œil* of Pulaski soon perceived, that the enemy were manœuvring to take possession of the road leading to Chester, with the view of cutting off our retreat, or, at least, the column of our baggage. He hastened to General Washington, to communicate the information, and was immediately authorised by the commander in chief to collect as many of the scattered troops as he could find at hand, and make the best of them. This was most fortunately executed by Pulaski, who, by an oblique advance upon the enemy’s front and right flank, defeated their object, and effectually protected our baggage, and the retreat of our army.

‘This important service was justly appreciated by General Washington, who did not fail to recommend Pulaski to Congress;

and that body passed the following resolution, on the 15th of September, 1777.

“Resolved, that a commander of the horse be appointed, with the rank of a Brigadier.”

“The ballots being taken, Count Pulaski was elected.”

‘On the next day after the battle of Brandywine, 12th of September, the army rested about Chester; on the 13th, it passed through Philadelphia, and proceeded as far as Germantown; on the next day, it recrossed the Schuylkill, and halted on the Lancaster road, about what was then called the Warren tavern. On the 16th, Pulaski’s indefatigable activity preserved the army from a complete surprise. This is a most interesting fact, and one highly creditable to Pulaski. Of this fact, our biographer does not seem to have been apprised; nor, indeed, does he appear to have possessed any accurate knowledge of the occurrences of the day, as the annexed account, copied from his 1st vol. page 78, evidently shows.

“Washington,” says Judge Johnson, “prepared again to give his enemy battle. But, with an army inferior in numbers, deficient in cavalry and artillery, and dispirited with defeat, he could not venture on an engagement, except under advantages, which his prudent adversary was resolved not to afford him. On the 16th of September, in the neighborhood of Goshen, the two armies again approached each other, with an intention to risk another battle. A deluge of rain separated them, and so damaged the arms and ammunition of the Americans, that Washington was compelled, for the present, to decline fighting, and give up the hopes of defending Philadelphia.”

‘Far from Washington being “prepared to give his enemy battle,” his army was then in a most deplorable condition; not only “dispirited with defeat,” but, harassed with fatigue and hunger. The men were here served with rations, of which they had been for a long time deprived. They wanted rest. Pulaski, who could not for a moment remain inactive, went out with a reconnoitering party of cavalry, and did not proceed very far, before he discovered the whole British army in full march upon our camp; he retreated in full speed—went to head quarters—communicated the important intelligence to General Washington, who, as can well be imagined, received it with equal surprise and uneasiness—for, he had not the most distant idea of such a movement from the enemy. At his request, Pulaski expressed his opinion. It was, that a detachment of about three hundred infantry, with his cavalry, would be sufficient to retard the approach of the enemy, long enough to enable the commander in chief to make his dispositions to receive them. The command of that detachment was given to Brigadier General Scott,

of Virginia; and they were scarcely engaged, when a tremendous easterly storm came on, which brought upon us that deluge of rain mentioned by the Judge, and which continued the whole night without any interruption. The consequences were not exactly as he says, viz. "that the arms and ammunition of the Americans were so damaged, that Washington was compelled for the present to decline fighting." The arms and ammunition of the enemy were not in any degree better protected; the continual rain respected neither side; it fell tremendously upon both, and placed between them an insurmountable obstacle to fighting; and however great the sufferings of the Americans were that night, they were not the less fortunate, as probably this circumstance saved our army from total destruction.

'We will not follow Pulaski throughout that campaign, in his active services, at the head of his cavalry. On the day of the battle of Germantown, he was sorely disappointed and mortified. There were but four regiments of horse raised, and not one of them completed. Three of them only, such as they were, had joined General Washington's army, and on the day of the battle, guards were furnished out of those regiments, to attend on the commander in chief, and on other generals—or employed in other service, so that Pulaski was left with so few men, as not to have it in his power to undertake any thing of importance. This was to him a matter of deep regret and bitter chagrin

'When General Washington had taken his winter quarters at Valley Forge, the cavalry were sent over into New Jersey, on account of forage, and for other service, on that side of the Delaware. Pulaski made Trenton his head quarters. Thence he represented to Congress the situation in which he had been placed at the battle of Germantown, where he had, in reality, found himself a mere nominal commander. He therefore proposed that Congress, to enable him to be more useful, should give him the command of an Independent Legion, to act with it as a partisan. On the 28th of March, 1778, Congress, after reading his letter, and taking into consideration a report of the 19th of that month, from the Board of War, passed the following resolution; "Resolved, that Count Pulaski retain his rank of Brigadier in the army of the United States, and that he raise and have the command of an independent corps of horse and foot; the horse to be armed with lances, and the foot equipped in the manner of light infantry; the corps to be raised in such way, and composed of such men, as General Washington shall think expedient and proper; and that it will not be injurious to the service, that he have liberty to dispense, in this particular instance, with the resolve of Congress against enlisting deserters." ' pp. 23—27.

As the writer was at the battle of Brandywine, and was one of Pulaski's reconnoitering party in the affair of the 15th of September, on the Lancaster road, this narrative is to be received as resting on the authority of an eyewitness.

Pulaski's legion was recruited in Pennsylvania and Maryland, and was organised and disciplined in Baltimore, the place of rendezvous. The enlistment was much more successful than had been anticipated; the ranks were soon filled, and the legion speedily marched to the theatre of the war in New Jersey. Here it was soon engaged in active service, in the course of which it met with a severe loss in the death of the lieutenant colonel, Baron de Botzen. On the 5th of October, 1778, the legion was ordered to Little Egg Harbour, with a body of Jersey and Pennsylvania militia, and a field piece from colonel Proctor's regiment of artillery, the whole under the command of Pulaski, for the defence of the place against an attack, which was expected from the enemy then on that coast. It was here, that colonel Botzen was surprised by the treachery of a Hessian deserter, and killed. This Hessian, who had been injudiciously countenanced by the board of war, and suffered to enter the American army in the capacity of an officer, was attached to Pulaski's legion as a second lieutenant, and put under the immediate command of colonel Botzen, a distinguished German officer of tried courage, and a high sense of honor. Whether from contempt for the character of a deserter, or from any particular cause, it is not known, but he was observed to treat the Hessian with marked severity. This treatment was fatally resented. Botzen's division was stationed at a distance from the other part of the legion, and the Hessian found means, by stratagem, to communicate with the enemy, and land a party of men near the place. A sudden and unexpected attack was made, and a short contest ensued, in which Botzen was pierced several times through with bayonets, and died with both his pistols discharged in his hands.

After the active operations of this campaign, the legion went into winter quarters at Minisink, on the Delaware. But a new scene for its exertions soon opened.

‘On the 2d of February, Congress passed the following resolution. “Resolved, that Count Pulaski be ordered to march with his legion to South Carolina, and put himself under the command

of Gen. Lincoln, or the commanding officer of the southern department.”

‘ In obedience to the foregoing resolution, the legion departed for that long march, as soon as every necessary preparation could be made, and reached Charleston at the very time when the British general Prevost, having suddenly and rapidly advanced from Savannah, appeared before that city, on the 11th of May, 1779, in the confident expectation that it would surrender to him, on the first summons. The unlooked for arrival of Pulaski baffled all his hopes. Already, had the governor and council agreed on terms of capitulation, not the most honorable, when Gen. Pulaski, accompanied by the brave Col. Laurens, repaired to the council chamber to protest against that precipitate measure—declaring that, as a continental officer, he would defend the city for the United States. Prevost was immediately informed of that determination. Pulaski saw the necessity of reviving the drooping spirits of the inhabitants; accordingly, he sallied out with the legion, which had just arrived. In that sortie, the Colonel of the legion was killed, but Prevost abandoned his enterprise, and retreated over to the islands.’ pp. 27, 28.

Pulaski rendered very essential services at Charleston. The following account is from Gordon. ‘ Nine hundred of the British army, their main body and baggage being left on the south side of Ashley river, crossed the ferry, and soon appeared before the town. The same day Count Pulaski’s legionary corps of infantry crossed Cooper river, to Charleston. They had scarcely arrived two hours, when he led eighty of them out of the lines, and stationed them in a valley behind a small breastwork, with the view of drawing the British into an ambuscade. He advanced a mile beyond the infantry, and joined a party of regular horse, and mounted militia volunteers, and with that force engaged the British cavalry for a while, and then retreated to his infantry; who, from an eagerness to engage, had quitted their breastwork, and so rendered abortive the advantage of the intended ambuscade, and were, by superior numbers, compelled to retreat. Pulaski, however, by discovering the greatest intrepidity, and by successful personal rencontres with individuals of the British cavalry, had a considerable influence in dispelling the general panic, and in introducing military sentiments into the minds of the inhabitants.’ In this engagement before Charleston, was killed the colonel commandant of the legion, Michael de Kowalz. He was advanced in age, having passed

his sixtieth year, a soldier of long experience, and covered with scars; a Hungarian by birth, who had been a colonel of hussars in the service of the great Frederick of Prussia, and decorated with the cross of merit. After the death of lieutenant colonel Botzen, no one had been appointed to fill up the vacancy, and on this emergency at Charleston, Pulaski put the infantry of the legion under the command of the old Hungarian colonel. He engaged the enemy with great eagerness, and advanced so far in front of the breastwork, that he came in contact with the British dragoons, by whom he was sabred to death while fighting with the greatest courage and firmness.

After the retreat of the enemy from Charleston, the aid of Pulaski was no longer necessary, and he marched immediately to Georgia. Count D'Estaing arrived on the coast, September 1, 1779, with an intention to cooperate with the American forces, and make an attack on Savannah. Pulaski's legion crossed the Savannah river for the purpose of scouring the country, and while employed in that service, an express was fortunately intercepted with two letters from Count D'Estaing, one for General Lincoln, and the other for Pulaski himself. This latter was extremely complimentary, and the French commander said in it, that knowing Count Pulaski was there, he was very sure he would not be the last to join him. On the 16th of September, Pulaski met D'Estaing at his landing place, and the two officers greeted each other in the most cordial manner. The plan of an attack on Savannah, then occupied by the British, was immediately concerted between them. Without waiting for General Lincoln, they arrived before the town, and D'Estaing sent in a summons demanding its surrender to the arms of France. The British commander, Prevost, asked a suspension of hostilities for twentyfour hours, till he could prepare his terms of capitulation. This was inconsiderately granted, and, in the meantime, Lieutenant Colonel Maitland, after encountering many obstacles, succeeded in entering the town with the troops under his command. Thus strengthened and encouraged, the garrison determined on resistance. General Lincoln with his forces formed a junction the next evening, and it was finally concluded to act against the town by a regular siege. From that time till the 8th of October,

whilst preparations for an assault were going on, Pulaski's legion, with the volunteers attached to it, was kept in constant motion, and had frequent skirmishes with the British piquets and small parties. At length the fatal 9th of October arrived.

'After the necessary preparations, a heavy cannonade was opened upon the enemy's works, and briskly kept up for several days, but without the desired effect. D'Estaing's marine officers remonstrated against his continuing to expose so valuable a fleet to the fury of the elements, at this tempestuous season, or to the possible arrival of a superior British naval force, and loudly urged his departure. An assault was, consequently, resolved upon. This assault was to be made on the right of the British lines. Two columns, one French, and the other American, were to attack, at the same time, each a particular redoubt. In the rear of the columns, the whole cavalry, American and French, was to be stationed, under the command of Count Pulaski. Should, as was confidently expected, the redoubts be carried, and the way opened, that enterprising leader was, with these united troops of horse, to enter the place, sword in hand, and to carry confusion and dismay among the garrison. D'Estaing led in person the French corps of attack. Wishing to avoid a circuitous advance round a swamp, and supposing the ground at the bottom to be sufficiently firm, he marched directly through it. The enemy had been informed of his plan by spies. They knew the intended point of attack, and the direction in which the approach of the assailants was to be made. Accordingly, they collected all their force where it would be required, and, at the first alarm, opened a tremendous and deadly fire. Pulaski, impatient to know when he was to act, determined, after securing his cavalry under cover, as well as the ground would admit, to go forward himself, and called to accompany him one of the captains of his legion, who is yet living, but far advanced in years. They had proceeded only to a small distance, when they heard of the havoc produced in the swamp by the hostile batteries. D'Estaing himself was grievously wounded. Aware of the fatal effects, which such a disaster was likely to produce on the spirits of French soldiers—and hoping that his presence would reanimate them, Pulaski rushed on to the scene of disorder and bloodshed. In his attempt to penetrate to the murderous spot, he received a swivel shot in the upper part of his right thigh; and the officer who had accompanied him, was, while on his way back, wounded by a musket ball.' pp. 28, 29.

This officer, we are led to understand, was the author of the pamphlet from which the above extracts are made. Be-

fore the day of battle, he had been twice wounded in the neighborhood of Savannah, and had two horses shot under him. This assault on the town proving unsuccessful, the enterprise was abandoned, and the allied armies separated in mutual harmony. The French troops and artillery were reembarked, and Pulaski, and the wounded officer mentioned above, were conveyed on board the United States brig *Wasp*, to be taken round to Charleston. Pulaski had every attention, which could be rendered him by the most skilful of the French surgeons, but the wound proved mortal, and he died just as the brig was leaving the Savannah river on her way to Charleston. His remains were committed to a watery grave, and when the vessel arrived in Charleston with the news of his death, a sentiment of universal sorrow pervaded the town. Joint resolutions were passed, by the governor and council of South Carolina, and the municipal authorities of the city, to pay a marked tribute of gratitude and respect to the memory of Pulaski. A day was appointed for the solemnity, a magnificent funeral procession was formed, the pall was borne by three American and three French officers, and a discourse suited to the occasion was delivered by the chaplain of the army. The whole scene was in a high degree impressive and solemn, and gave strong indications of the sympathy, which the people felt in the untimely fate of one, whose life had been a series of struggles in favor of the just rights of his fellowmen, and who, but one short month before, had contributed, by his wisdom and his bravery, to save the city from the conquest and pillage of an invading enemy. These expressions of feeling were honorable to the citizens of Charleston. Their own historian, Ramsay, has done injustice equally to them, and to the fair fame of Pulaski, by neglecting to describe these events, and the previous defence of the city by the Polish general, in the manner they deserve.

Congress was not unmindful of the duty they owed to the man, who had so ardently espoused the cause, which the whole nation was then in arms to support, and when a letter from General Lincoln was read, giving official notice of the death of Pulaski, it was immediately resolved, 'That a monument be erected to the memory of Brigadier Count Pulaski, and that a committee of three be appointed to bring in a re-

solution for that purpose.' A committee was accordingly appointed, but as American citizens we are mortified to acknowledge, that a resolution, fraught with so much justice and generosity, and pledging in terms so positive the good faith of Congress, has never been carried into effect. The same unmerited and culpable neglect has awaited a similar resolution of the same body, by which it was ordered, that a monument should be erected to the memory of the brave Baron de Kalb, who fell, pierced with eleven wounds, in one of the hottest engagements, which occurred during the American revolution. Let the time soon come, when a sense of justice, if not of gratitude, shall awaken the thoughts of our national legislature to a proper estimate of a duty so long neglected.

From the account here given of the assault on Savannah, which, as coming from an eyewitness, merits implicit confidence, an error may be corrected, that has been transferred from Gordon into all the other histories of the American revolution, respecting the manner in which Pulaski received the wound that caused his death. Gordon says, that 'Count Pulaski, at the head of two hundred horsemen, was in full gallop, riding into town between the redoubts, with an intention of charging in the rear, when he received a mortal wound.' All this is essentially incorrect. Pulaski was not at the head of his troops, nor was he riding into the town; on the contrary, his cavalry was stationary and properly posted, and himself, at the time he received his wound, proceeding to reanimate the French soldiery, when it was known that D'Estaing was wounded.

The further history of Pulaski's legion may be learned from the following sketch, which we take from Niles's Register for October 16, 1824. It is contained in an article describing the entrance of General Lafayette into Baltimore.

'As the general passed down the line, a sacred and interesting relic of the revolution was presented to his notice. It was the original standard of the brave and generous General Count Pulaski, whose heroism and devotion to the cause of liberty are conspicuous in the records of the war of independence. The corps of Forsyth's riflemen had solicited and obtained from its possessor, the worthy Colonel Bentalou, the honour of carrying this standard upon the day of the General's arrival in the city; and it was on

this occasion displayed upon one of the spears used by the lancers of the legion, entwined with Pulaski's sword belt. It was when this gallant officer received his mortal wound in the attack upon Savannah, on the 9th of October, 1779, and his noble soul was about leaving its earthly tenement, that he bequeathed this belt to his loved and equally brave companion in arms, Colonel, (then captain,) Bentalou. The legion of Pulaski was raised, organised, and disciplined in Baltimore in the spring of 1778. At that period the country generally was destitute, none of the fine or useful arts were cultivated—the whole energies of the country being bent on war. The army was poorly clothed and badly fed—and, in the absence of more elegant materials or accomplished artists, the standard of the legion was formed of a piece of crimson silk, and embroidered by the Moravian nuns of Bethlehem, in Pennsylvania. On one side are the initials, U. S. with this motto—*unita virtus fortior*—on the reverse, the all-seeing eye, surrounded with thirteen stars, and the motto, *non alius regit*. It may appear, as it certainly is, a singular circumstance that the standard, (first consecrated at Baltimore when a small village,) after having waved over the greater part of the old thirteen states, should be returned to the same place, now a large and important city, and there be permanently enshrined. The history of the “times which tried men's souls,” while it shows the unsurpassed bravery, and great services of the legion, furnishes also an explanation of this circumstance. We find that in the summer of 1778, the lieutenant-colonel of the legion was killed at Egg Harbour, in New-Jersey, by British bayonets. In 1779, the colonel, at the advanced age of nearly seventy, (and who had been a colonel of hussars in the armies of Frederick the Great of Prussia,) fell under the cuts of sabres before Charleston, South Carolina. On the 9th of October, of the same year, the General Count Pulaski was mortally wounded by a swivel shot, at the attack on Savannah, in Georgia. In 1780, we find that the major was sabred at Monk's corner, in South Carolina, and the command then devolved upon Captain Bentalou, of the first troop of light dragoons of the legion, and senior surviving officer. When the legion was disbanded at the close of the war, the standard was retained in the possession of Colonel Bentalou, by whom it had been carefully preserved.'

As a military man of science, knowledge, and experience, as a soldier in the highest sense of the word, quick to perceive and decide, prompt to act, unwearied in perseverance, collected in the midst of danger, brave without rashness, and discreet in his designs, Pulaski has few rivals in the lists of eminent warriors. His fame spread over Europe during the

short space in which he maintained the unequal contest in Poland, and even Wraxall says of him, that he was acknowledged by 'the Russians, his enemies, to possess military talents of a very superior nature; nor were they ever able to take him prisoner during the civil war.' Dr Franklin says in a letter to General Washington, dated Paris, June 13, 1777, 'Count Pulaski, who was a general of the confederates in Poland, and who is gone to join you, is esteemed one of the greatest officers in Europe.' These testimonies to his military character were fully borne out by his conduct in this country. Wherever he appeared, he showed himself a brave and skilful soldier, inspiring his officers and men with a warm attachment to himself, and confidence in his talents.

In respect to the charge of Judge Johnson, above alluded to, very little needs be added. It is presumed that no one, who takes pains to become acquainted with Pulaski's history, will entertain the impression on the subject, which seems to have existed in the mind of the biographer of General Greene. Speaking of the unfortunate result of the battle at Germantown, he uses the following words. 'It is a melancholy fact, of which few were informed, that the celebrated Pulaski, who commanded the patrol, was found by General Washington himself, asleep in a farm house. Policy only, and a regard to the rank and misfortunes of the offender, could have induced the general to suppress the fact. Yet, to this circumstance, most probably, we are to attribute the success of the enemy's patrol, in approaching near enough to discover the advance of the American column.' Now, admitting this to be true, it is a most extraordinary thing, that it should have been kept secret so long, especially as all the circumstances of that engagement were of a nature to call forth the severest public scrutiny into every transaction, to which the failure could possibly be ascribed. Whatever may have been the indulgence of Washington, it is not credible, that the 'few who were informed,' and who cannot be supposed to have had any such motives of delicacy, should not reveal a fact, so well calculated to screen the American officers from the disgrace of a defeat, by throwing the burden on the shoulders of a foreigner just then arrived in the country.

Nor is the imputation, which this charge casts on Washington himself, such as we should be willing to admit. The

kind of 'policy,' to which Washington's silence is here ascribed, was not that which became the commander in chief of a nation's forces, nor was it that which Washington was known in any other case to exercise. Such a policy, indeed, would have been little else, than betraying the high trust confided to him, and a most unjustifiable breach of right conduct, in suffering the odious consequences of the neglect of one officer to be borne by those, who had faithfully done their duty. Moreover, Washington afterwards recommended Pulaski to Congress, was instrumental in procuring him a very high and responsible appointment in the service, and always treated him as an officer, whom he respected, and in whom he had the fullest confidence.

These considerations alone are enough to destroy the force of the charge. It needs not be inquired whether Pulaski was found in a farm house, or what he did, or whether he did anything, at the battle of Germantown ; it is enough to know, that Washington was acquainted with all his conduct there much better than any other person, and that he never lisped a whisper of censure for neglect of duty, but on the contrary aided his future promotion. In short, we doubt not, that Judge Johnson has been deceived, and that the authority on which he relied, from whatever source it came, is not entitled to credit ; and every generous minded citizen of the United States must lament, that he should have sanctioned by his name a charge, calculated to reflect no honor on the character of Washington, and to cast reproach on the memory of a brave man, whose fame was so well earned, who devoted his best days to a defence of the rights of outraged humanity in his native land, and, when exiled by the usurpers whom he could not conquer, gave the last years of his life, and the last drop of his blood, to the struggle for the liberties of America.
